(24)

ARTICLES

OF

Visitation and Enquiry;

Exhibited to the

Ministers, Church-Wardens and *Sides-men*,

IN THE

VISITATION

Of the Reverend

Dr. *THOMAS HYDE*,

Arch-Deacon of *Glocester*, 1699.

OXFORD,

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The OATH to be administred to the Church-Wardens of every Parish.

YOU shall Swear truly and faithfully to execute the Office of a Churchwarden within your Parish, and, according to the best of your Skill and Knowledge, present such Things and Persons, as you know to be Presentable by the Ecclesiastical Laws of this Realm.

So help you God.

The Sidemen's Oath.

YOU shall Swear that you will be assistant to your Church-wardens in the execution of their Office, so far as by Law you are bound.

So help you God.

ARTICLES OF INSTRUCTION FOR THE VISITATION OF THE DIOCESE of *GLOUCESTER.*

TIT. I.

Concerning Churches and the Ornaments thereof.

I. IS your Pariſh-Church or Chappel maintained in good and ſufficient Repair, with the Bells in your Steeple or Tower? and is it decently and comely kept within and without as it becomes the Houſe of God?

II. Have you a good Bible, with two Books of Common-Prayer, a Book of Homilies?

III. Have you all the Furniture and Ornaments to your Church duly provided? and have you amended all that is amiſs or wanting in your Churches?

TIT. II.

Concerning the Church-yard, Glebe, and Terriers of the Glebe-Land.

I. IS your Church-yard ſufficiently mounded and fenced with a Wall or Rayles? and is it kept free from Annoyance, Encroachments or Waſte?

II. Have you made a new Terrier of the Glebe-Lands and Cuſtoms of Tything in your Pariſh, and ſent a Copy thereof into the Regiſtry at *Glouceſter*, according to the Paper of Inſtructions that was ſent by Mr. Chancellor?

TIT. III.

Concerning Miniſters.

I. IS your Miniſter Reſident among you in his own proper Houſe, or doth he keep a Curate? and what Stipend is allotted for the Curate? and what care is taken in his abſence for Hoſpitality and Charity to the Poor?

II. Is your Miniſter's Houſe and Out-houſes kept in good and ſufficient Repair? and doth he live in it himſelf, or keep a Tenant there?

III. Doth your Miniſter duly and conſtantly Officiate in the Church according to Order? and doth he perform all Offices reverently and decently, without addition or diminution? and doth he ſupply any more Cures than one?

IV. Doth your Miniſter Inſtruct and Catechiſe the Youth? doth he viſit the Sick, and give a good Example to his Pariſh, by an innocent, grave and peaceable Behaviour?

V. Doth your Miniſter wear or ride with a Cravat, or in a gray Coat? and doth he go decently attired, according to his Function?

VI. Hath your Miniſter obſerved and read openly in the Church, the King's Directions that were lately ſent abroad? and doth he obſerve the ſame Directions himſelf?

VII. Doth

VII. Doth he ſometimes read the Homilies, either in order, or ſelecting ſuch as may beſt ſerve to inſtruct and reprove according as the neceſſities of the People under his Charge ſhall require?

VIII. Doth he Pray for King WILLIAM by Name in his Pulpit?

TIT. IV.

Concerning Pariſhioners.

I. IS there any of your Pariſh that are known or ſuſpected to be guilty of Inceſt, Adultery, Fornication, Swearing or Debauchery?

II. Do they Prophane the Lord's Day, or bring any Scandal upon Religion by their wicked and vicious Lives?

III. Do they neglect thoſe other Duties that are incumbent on them?

IV. Are there any Perſons in your Pariſh that conceal or imbezzle the Wills and Teſtaments of the Dead? or have any Legacies that have been given to the Church, or Poor, or other pious Uſes, been detain'd or miſ-imployed, contrary to the intent of the Donors?

TIT. V.

Concerning Pariſh Clerks.

HAve you belonging to your Pariſh Church or Chappel a ſufficient Clerk or Sexton? and doth he diſcharge his Duty with care and diligence? and is his Wages duly paid him?

TIT. VI.

Concerning Hoſpitals, Schools, School-Maſters, Phyſicians and Chyrurgeons.

I. IS there any Hoſpital or Alms-Houſes in your Pariſh? Is it well Ordered and Governed? Is there due care taken that the Poor be not defrauded of their dues?

II. Doth any one keep School in your Pariſh without Licenſe? doth he inſtruct his Scholars in the Principles of Chriſtian Religion, by teaching them the Church Catechiſm? and doth he endeavour to train up the Youth, committed to his Charge, in a vertuous and godly Courſe of Life?

Adver-

Advertiſement.

THE Miniſters of each Pariſh, whoſe Duty it is to endeavour the Suppreſſion of all Irregularities and Prophaneneſs, if they ſee the Church-Wardens negligent to preſent Notorious Crimes, may and ought to do it themſelves.

THOMAS HYDE, *D. D.*

Arch-Deacon.

FINIS.